

IN THE CLAIMS:

Please amend the claims as follows. This listing of the claims will replace all prior versions and listings of claims in the application:

1-13 (canceled)

14. (Currently Amended) A door handle for mounting, generally horizontally on a refrigeration furniture door, comprising:

an elongated middle piece;

two end pieces;

a receiving elements, corresponding in number to at least two plug elements, and formed on at least one of said middle piece and said end pieces;

at least two plug elements formed on ~~at least~~ the other one of said middle piece and said end pieces;

said end pieces fixed to said middle piece by said plug elements inserted into said receiving elements on opposite ends of said middle piece; and

said end pieces attached to said middle piece, extending said middle piece in the longitudinal direction and said receiving elements having substantially continuous peripheral walls over their entire length.

15. (Previously Presented) The door handle according to claim 14, including said middle piece has a substantially straight profile.

16. (Previously Presented) The door handle according to claim 14, including said middle piece is an injection molded part.

17. (Previously Presented) The door handle according to claim 14, including said middle piece is a hollow extruded profile.

18. (Previously Presented) The door handle according to claim 14, including at least one of said receiving elements is formed on said middle piece and one of said plug elements complementary to said receiving element is formed on one of said end pieces.

19. (Previously Presented) The door handle according to claim 14, including the plugging direction of each receiving element and a plug element corresponding thereto is substantially parallel to the longitudinal axis of said middle piece.

20. (Previously Presented) The door handle according to claim 14, wherein each plug element includes a base surrounded by a circumferential projection which forms a stop for a receiving element corresponding thereto.

21. (Previously Presented) The door handle according to claim 20, including said plug element including a scoring for frictionally locking said plug element into said receiving element.

22. (Previously Presented) The door handle according to claim 14, including the outer contour of said middle piece continues substantially continuously into said end pieces.

23. (Previously Presented) The door handle according to claim 14, including at least one of said end pieces including a retaining toggle for form-locking connection to the furniture door.

24. (Previously Presented) The door handle according to claim 14, including at least one of said end pieces including at least one through hole adapted for inserting at least one fixing means for fixing said end piece to the furniture door.

25. (Currently Amended) An assembly kit for a door handle adapted to be mounted generally horizontally on a refrigerator furniture door, said kit comprising:

- an elongated middle piece;
- two end pieces;
- a receiving elements, corresponding in number to at least two plug elements, and formed on at least one of said middle piece and said end pieces;
- at least two plug elements formed on ~~at least~~ the other one of said middle piece and said end pieces;
- said end pieces adapted to be fixed to said middle piece by said plug elements;
- said plug elements adapted to be inserted into said receiving elements on opposite ends of said middle piece; and
- said end pieces when attached to said middle piece, extending said middle piece in the longitudinal direction, and said receiving elements having substantially continuous peripheral wall over their entire length.

26. (Previously Presented) The assembly kit according to claim 25, including said middle piece is a hollow extruded profile and including at least one of said receiving elements is formed on said middle piece and one of said plug elements complementary to said receiving element is formed on one of said end pieces.

27. (Previously Presented) The assembly kit according to claim 25, including at least one of said end pieces including a retaining toggle for a form-locking connection to the furniture door.

28. (Previously Presented) The assembly kit according to claim 25, including at least one of said end pieces including a retaining toggle for a form-locking connection to the furniture door.

29. (Currently Amended) A method for producing a door handle, comprising:
forming a profile strand and cutting a pre-determined length from said profile strand forming an elongated middle piece;
forming two end pieces by individually molding each of said end pieces;
forming a receiving elements, corresponding in number to at least two plug elements, on at least one of said middle piece and said end pieces;
forming at least two plug elements on ~~at least~~ the other one of said middle piece and said end pieces;
fixing said end pieces to said middle piece by inserting said plug element into said receiving elements on opposite ends of said middle piece; and
attaching said end pieces to said middle piece, extending said middle piece in the longitudinal direction and forming said receiving element with substantially continuous peripheral walls over their entire length.

30. (Previously Presented) The method according to claim 29, including forming said middle piece with a hollow extruded profile and forming at least one of said receiving elements on said middle piece and forming one of said plug elements complementary to said receiving element on one of said end pieces.

31. (Previously Presented) The method according to claim 29, including forming a retaining toggle on at least one of said end pieces for a form-locking connection to the furniture door.

32. (Previously Presented) The method according to claim 29, including forming at least one through hole in at least one of said end pieces adapted for inserting at least one fixing means for fixing said end piece to the furniture door.

33. (Previously Presented) A door handle for mounting, generally horizontally on a refrigerator furniture door, comprising:

an elongated middle piece;

two end pieces;

receiving elements corresponding in number to at least two plug elements, and formed on at least one of said middle piece and said two end pieces;

said end pieces fixed to said middle pieces by each one of said plug elements inserted into a corresponding receiving element on opposite ends of said middle piece, said plug elements each being of a size wherein when pressed into a corresponding receiving element, a force locking connection is formed, and further comprising a circumferential projection of smaller cross-sectional area than the remainder of the plug element such that when the middle piece and end pieces are joined there is no discontinuity between the end pieces and the middle piece; and

said end pieces attached to said middle piece, extending said middle piece in the longitudinal direction, and said receiving elements having substantially continuous peripheral walls over their entire length.

34. (Previously Presented) The door handle according to claim 33, including said plug element including a scoring for frictionally locking said plug element into said corresponding receiving element for causing said force locking connection.